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Martha Dragich

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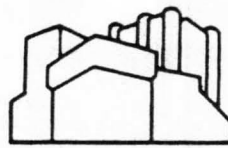
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College of Law Library
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November 3, 1989

Ms. Anne E. Prentice
Director
University of Tennessee
Graduate School of Library &
Information Science
804 Volunteer Boulevard
Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-4330

Dear Dean Prentice:

I hope the school year is progressing well for you and your students and that you will find the enclosed information on law librarianship and the Southeastern Chapter useful and interesting. Planning continues for the 1990 meeting; however, there has been a minor change in the dates. The main meeting will be held from April 5 through April 7, 1990 with a special additional institute on management scheduled for April 7 and 8. As details of the program are available I will forward them to you.

The chapter would also like to assist you in your introduction of the students to different forms of librarianship. If you hold a "career day" or have a class in Special Librarianship which includes guest speakers from the various library specialties, we can arrange for one of our members to participate. We believe law librarianship is among those library specialties on the cutting edge of information management. Law librarians were among the first to perform full-text database searching with the Lexis system in the early 1970's. Also, in response to the computerization of law firms, many law schools are establishing computer labs for their law students. The labs are usually located in the law library and supervision and training is performed by law librarians. Many law firm librarians are assuming additional responsibilities in the management of the law firm, such as that of Records Manager or Information Systems Manager. Ours is truly a diverse and challenging specialty.

Specific knowledge of legal materials is often a result of "on the job training," and the lack of legal education should in no way limit anyone from becoming a law librarian. Actually, a

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good background in general reference sources and management techniques can be as valuable. I look forward to hearing that we can coordinate a speaker for your students in the near future. Please do not hesitate to call me if I can be of any other assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Martha J. Dragich".

Martha J. Dragich
Associate Law Librarian

MJD:dmw

Enclosures

CC: Hazel Johnson
Chair, SEALL Publicity and Public Relations Committee